

17 Apr 1970

Short Notes

1. In a letter received by our contact in Europe on 13 Apr 1970 from Igor, the latter writes, " My situation is more or less O.K. I shall write you more about it when it turns out that the mail is functioning all right".

On the whole the letter is very cautious , even in its generalities.

2. At the Jubilee Plenum of the Combined Creative Unions and Organizations of Ukraine devoted to Lenin, <sup>the eve of</sup> on his 100th birth anniversary on 9 Apr 1970 in Kiev , Leonid NOVYCHENKO, Secretary of the Union of Writers of Ukraine and Member-Correspondent of the Academy of Sciences, Ukr SSR, attacked in his speech " Sixty poets of the Sixties" , a Prolog publication of 1967 ( pp 299) as an example of "subversive attempts" of bourgeois nationalists directed especially at "creating discord among generations and so forth..y and " at ideological "softening " of Socialist Society and its art!  
Enclosed is the respective excerpt.

The Jubilee Plenum was opened by Mykola Bazhan, poet and Academician, other speakers were : Oles HONCHAR, head of the Board of the Union of Writers of Ukraine, Andrey SHTOHARENKO, head of the Union of Composers of Ukraine, Natala UZHVIY, head of the Presidium of Ukrainian Theatrical Society, Tymofiy LEVCHUK, First Secretary of the Board of the Union of Cinematographers of Ukraine ; Vasyl BORODAY, head of the Board of the Union of Artists of Ukraine; Leonid NOVYCHENKO, and others.

Present at the Plenum also were :

F.D.OVCHARENKO, Secretary ,CCCPU,

P.T.TRONKO, Vicepremier, Ukr SSR,

P.M.FEBCHENKO, H.H.SHEVEL, V.V.TSVETKOV, I.A.PERESADENKO - chiefs of departments of CC CPU;

O.S. KAPTO, First Secretary of Komsomol of Ukraine

R.V. BASHCHUK, Minister of Culture , Ukr SSR.

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Speech by Leonid Novychenko, secretary of the Union of Writers, Ukr. SSR at the jubilee Plenum of the combined creative unions and organizations of Ukraine. Kultura i Zhyttia No. 30-31, 12 April 1970 p.6

To talk about adoption of Leninist ideas in the field of artistic culture is impossible if one by-passes the questions of Leninist principles on party and national character, which are the soul and heart of Soviet literature and art.

It is therefore natural that in this very direction, at this sancro-sanct of the creative individuality of Soviet writers, are directed all the arrows, malicious attacks and provocative intrigues of our ideological opponent. His arsenal of methods is extremely large and varied. Here we find not only libel and slander, but also deceptive songs of contemporary sirens-various theories of "convergence" (which means the coming together of opposites), and "building bridges", various attempts at ideological "softening" of Socialist society and its art. These are clearly ~~reversatory~~ <sup>subversive</sup> attempts to create discord among generations and so forth.

And today, for example we were informed of the publication in New York by one of the bourgeois nationalist publishing houses of a purely speculative book about young Soviet poetry in Soviet Ukraine under the swash-buckling, advertising name of "Sixty poets of the sixties" (Prolog, 1967 ed. note) . We can imagine how much demagogic eulogy was shed, which has nothing in common with the true intentions of these clever reptiles of nationalism towards these young ~~poets~~ poets.

I will state nothing new, but I cannot detach myself from the known idiom that: Firmness of ideological positions, depth and strength of communist convictions of every one of our young writers and artists takes on added weight under these circumstances...